

[5th February 1924]

Depressed Classes.

Depressed classes pupils in Satyamangalam Elementary Board School and Dharapuram Municipal Schools.

65 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that no free school books, slates and pencils are being supplied to the pupils of the depressed classes who are reading in the Satyamangalam Elementary Board School run by the Gobichettipalayam Taluk Board, Coimbatore district; and

(b) whether it is a fact that no free school books, slates and pencils are being supplied to the pupils of the depressed classes reading in the Dharapuram Municipal Elementary Schools, though the Coimbatore District Educational Council made a recommendation to the Dharapuram Municipality to that effect?

A.—The Government have no information but understand that there is no general practice in the Presidency of local bodies supplying free the articles referred to.

District Board.

Election of district board presidents.

66 Q.—RAO BAHADUR A. S. KRISHNA RAO PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what district boards in this Province made representations to the Government during the last three years for the grant of the privilege of electing their presidents, and when; and

(b) what orders were passed by the Government in each of these cases and when and for what reasons?

A.—The following statement is laid on the table:—

Name of district board that applied for the privilege of electing its president.	Date of the resolution of the district board.	Orders of Government with reasons.	Date of Government Order.
Anantapur ..	January 1923 received 4th March 1923.	The President had already been appointed, and the resolution of the board was that the elective privilege should be granted when the Presidentship again fell vacant. No orders were necessary.	8th March 1923.
Bellary ..	July 1922 ..	The Government considered that the condition of the Board required that the President should be nominated by them.	16th October 1922.
Chittoor ..	Date not given.	Do. do.	6th July 1923.

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Name of district board that applied for the privilege of electing its president.	Date of the resolution of the district board.	Orders of Government with reasons.	Date of Government Order.
Coimbatore ..	May 1923 ..	The resolution was simply recorded as a President had been appointed before the receipt of the resolution.	22nd June 1923.
Ganjam ..	July 1921 ..	The Government considered that the condition of the Board required that the President should be nominated by them.	12th September 1922.
Godavari (1) ..	March 1921 ..	The privilege was not allowed as the taluk boards in the district had not then been reconstituted.	23rd May 1921.
Do. (2) ..	March 1923 ..	The Government considered that the condition of the Board required that the President should be nominated by them.	11th May 1923.
Kistna ..	October 1921.	Do. do.	18th August 1922.
Vizagapatam (1)	July 1921 ..	The privilege was not allowed as the taluk boards in the district had not then been reconstituted.	20th August 1921
Do. (2)	August 1923.	The Board was asked to renew its request after the expiry of the term of its present President.	24th September 1923.
Tanjore ..	September 1923.	The privilege has been allowed with effect from 8th January 1924.	1st December 1923.

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" I should like to know whether the Government have received subsequent information about the feeling in the district on this matter ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I do not quite understand what the hon. Member means by subsequent information. Up to the time of the preparation of the draft answer I do not think there has been any agitation. I must make enquiries whether subsequent to that there has been any."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" Then, Sir, will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state what the condition is to which he refers in his reply when he speaks of the Ganjam district ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" One of the conditions referred to is whether, if the privilege is given, there are qualified men to be elected as presidents."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Do I understand him to say that with regard to Bellary, Cuddapah and Gōdāvari, in his opinion, there are not competent men to be elected as presidents of district boards, because I find the hon. Member saying ' The Government considered that the condition of the board required that the president should be nominated by them ' ? I now ask him to just think a while with regard to all these three districts—Bellary, Cuddapah and

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Gōdāvari—and say whether he, as the hon. the Chief Minister, takes the responsibility of saying that none of these large districts can find a single man to be elected president of the district board.”

Mr. A. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—“ May I ask the hon. the Chief Minister whether the financial condition of each district has not also to be taken into consideration ? ”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ I am much obliged to that answer ! ” (Laughter from the opposition benches).

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ The conditions are various. In some cases competent persons may not be available. In some cases the boards may be financially unsound and have deficit budgets and so forth. So if the conditions are satisfactory, Government will be prepared to grant the privilege.”

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—“ Are we to understand that out of the 48 members of the Ganjām District Board no one is able to run on the district board ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ It is a question which requires an expression of opinion and I am not prepared to answer it.”

Rao Bahadur C. V. S. NARASIMHA RAJU :—“ Is it the view of the Government that in case of a deficit budget the nominated president will discharge his duties more efficiently than an elected president responsible to the board and through the board to the electorate of the district ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ In that case the Government can expect a certain standard of ability.”

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—“ Does the hon. the Chief Minister realize that those districts have returned hon. Members to this Council and if they can return Members to this Council to help the Government in the administration of the whole Presidency, does he seriously suggest that they cannot elect presidents of district boards ? ”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—“ I do not think it requires any answer.”

Education.

The Board and Municipal Muhammadan elementary schools.

67 Q.—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government, the hon. the Minister for Education and the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the number of Board and Municipal Muhammadan Elementary schools for boys and girls opened during the past three years in the Ceded districts ?

A.—Information is not available. It will be called for.

Aid to Arabic schools.

68 Q.—Mr. K. ABDUL HYE SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of schools opened by the Government and the amount spent during the last three years for the spread of Sanskrit Education in the Presidency ; and